

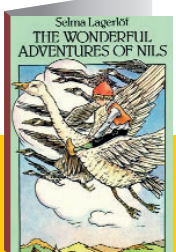
# NOBEL LADIES



## SELMA LAGERLÖF

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Telling stories rooted in the sagas of her homeland

The Swedish writer was the first woman to win the award in 1909. Besides writing, she pursued women's issues and helped Jewish writer Nelly Sachs escape Nazi persecution in WWII.



**READ THE WONDERFUL ADVENTURES OF NILS:** The 1906 story follows the life of a boy named Nils Holgersson.

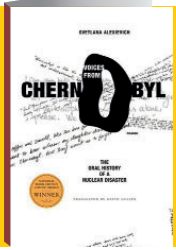


## SVETLANA ALEXIEVICH

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Giving voice to the post-Soviet individual

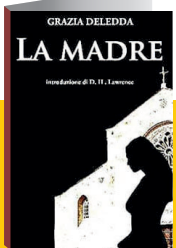
The investigative journalist was the first woman from Belarus to receive the award in 2015. Her books depict life during, and after, the Soviet Union through the experience of individual – and was presented as a collage of interviews.

**READ VOICES FROM CHERNOBYL: THE ORAL HISTORY OF A NUCLEAR DISASTER:** In this Nobel award winning book, Alexievich interviewed hundreds of people affected by the worst nuclear reactor accident in history.



## GRAZIA DELEDDA

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Portraying the harsh life of Sardinia in her poetry and stories. The first Italian woman to win the prize in 1926, Deledda was inspired by the Sardinian peasants and their struggles to write stories that shed light on the real sufferings of human beings.



**READ LA MADRE (THE MOTHER):** The 1909 novel told the story of a Sardinian mother, whose son – a priest – falls in love with a widow.

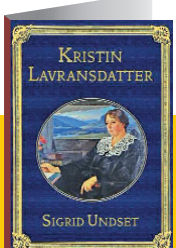
France takes the gold medal for the most Nobel Literature Prizes with 15 laureates, including the first one ever awarded, to Sully Prudhomme in 1901.



## SIGRID UNDET

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Writing about medieval times based on Norwegian myths, legend, and history

The Norwegian writer first wrote about modern women struggling for emancipation before switching to historical novels – which won her the Nobel in 1928.



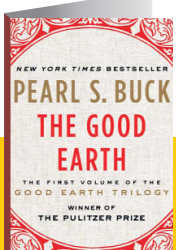
**READ KRISTIN LAVRANDSDATTER:** Published in 1920, this historical trilogy follows the story of a woman living in the 14th century.



## PEARL S. BUCK

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Portraying the peasant life in China

Born in US and raised in China, the prolific author won the Nobel in 1938. She's known for penning over 30 novels, plus biographies, autobiographies, non-fiction books and short story collections.



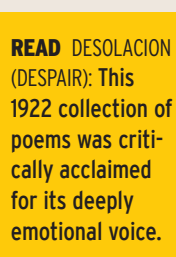
**READ THE GOOD EARTH:** The 1931 novel dramatised family life in a Chinese village in the early 20th century.



## GABRIELA MISTRAL

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Writing poetry on themes of love, betrayal and nature

In 1945 the Chilean poet became the first Latin American author to receive the award. Her poems, focused on the Latin American identity in contemporary times.



**READ DESOLACION (DESPAIR):** This 1922 collection of poems was critically acclaimed for its deeply emotional voice.

## NELLY SACHS

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Presenting the cultural heritage of the Jewish people

The German-born Jewish poet and playwright fled to Sweden after the Nazis came into power in WW II. Her experiences inspired her to write about the grief of her people.



**READ ELI: A MYSTERY PLAY OF THE SUFFERINGS OF ISRAEL:** The 1943 play was the first Holocaust drama ever written.

## WISLAWA SZYMBORSKA

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Addressing existential questions in her poems

Described as the 'Mozart of poetry', the Polish author won the Nobel in 1996. Her first poem, 'I Am Looking for a Word', published in 1945, is available online.



**READ DWUKROPEK (COLON):** The 2006 collection was chosen as the best book of 2006 in Poland. Or read 'Utopia', available online.

Did you know of the 116 Nobel Literature Prize laureates, only 15 are women? Take a look at all the female bards who have won the prestigious honour since it was first awarded in 1901, along with what the judges said about their work



## OLGA TOKARCZUK

The winner of the 2018 Nobel Prize for literature

### WHO IS SHE?

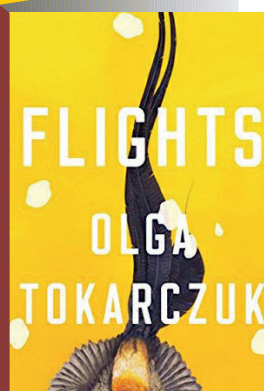
Born on January 29, 1962, in the western town of Sulechów, Tokarczuk studied psychology at the University of Warsaw. She worked as a therapist for a few years in the western city of Walbrzych and published a collection of poems before taking a stab at prose. Following the success of her early books, she turned to writing full time and settled in the Sudety Mountains near the Czech border. The 57-year-old is considered the most talented Polish novelist of her generation, and has a string of bestsellers to her name.

Trained as a psychologist Tokarczuk practised as an addiction specialist for a while but she burned out. She once told an interviewer: "I was working with one of my patients, and I realised I was more disturbed than he was". She turned to writing after that and became successful.

### NOBEL NOD FOR:

Tokarczuk has written more than a dozen books and won numerous honours, including Britain's Man Booker International Prize last year and Poland's most prestigious Nike Literary Award – twice. Her books have been turned into plays and films and translated into more than 25 languages, including Catalan, Hindi and Japanese.

**READ FLIGHTS:** The 2007 Booker International Prize winning book was praised for its 'series of startling juxtapositions (as Tokarczuk) flies us through a galaxy of departures and arrivals, stories and digressions, all the while exploring matters close to the contemporary and human predicament'.



### CONTROVERSY

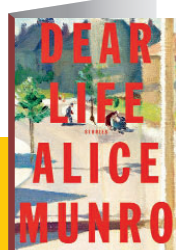
The 57-year-old novelist, known for her subversive streak has often irked Poland's populists and conservatives. She does not shy away from criticising Poland's right-wing Law and Justice government. She received death threats in 2015 after telling state media that an open and tolerant Poland was a myth.

### ALICE MUNRO

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Being a master of the contemporary short story

Frequently referred to as the 'Canadian Chekhov' Munro has won 22 literary prizes, including the Nobel in 2013, for having revolutionised the architecture of short stories. Munro's stories are revered for the way she presented human relationships through the lens of daily life.

**READ DEAR LIFE:** In her stories, she highlights a moment in which a life is forever altered by a chance encounter or an action not taken.

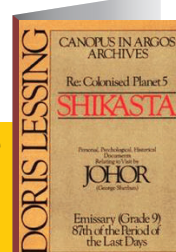


## DORIS LESSING

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Writing about how and why we live

In 2007, the British-Zimbabwean author became the oldest person to win the Nobel at 88. Her work was mostly centred around political, feminist issues; and race relations in Zimbabwe.

**READ SHIKASTA:** Published in 1979, the science fiction novel is about the history of a planet, Shikasta, under the influence of three galactic empires.

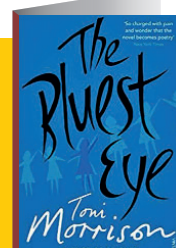


## TONI MORRISON

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Depicting the historical role of African-American women in society

Awarded the Nobel in 1993, the laureate's best-selling work explored black identity in America, and in particular, offered an idea of what it means to live in a black woman's body.

**READ THE BLUEST EYE:** Toni Morrison's debut novel was published in 1970. It told the story of Pecola, a young African-American girl, who considers herself 'ugly' and wishes for blue eyes.



## NADINE GORDIMER

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Depicting the consequences of apartheid

The South African-born writer was awarded the Nobel in 1991 with Alfred Nobel calling her work a 'great benefit to humanity'. Her stories focused on racial issues, including apartheid, in her native country.

**READ MY SON'S STORY:** The 1990 novel tells the story of a family torn apart by illicit love, political struggle and apartheid.



Jean-Paul Sartre, awarded the 1964 Nobel Prize in Literature, declined



the prize because he had consistently declined all official honours.

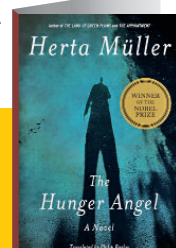


## HERTA MUELLER

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Depicting corruption, intolerance and repression

The German-Romanian author won the award in 2009. Her stories stemmed from her experiences of living in the Socialist Republic of Romania, under the repressive Nicolae Ceausescu regime.

**READ ATEMSCHAUKEL (THE HUNGER ANGEL):** This 2009 prose poem depicted the persecution of ethnic Germans in Romania.

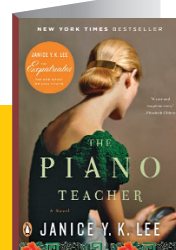


## ELFRIEDE JELINEK

**NOBEL NOD FOR:** Revealing the absurdity of society's clichés through her writing

The Austrian novelist and playwright, noted for her controversial works on gender relations, female sexuality, and popular culture was awarded the Nobel in 2004.

**READ THE PIANO TEACHER:** The 1983 novel is about a piano teacher who gets in a relationship with her student.



OCTOBER 16, 2019

## MUST SEE

## MUST DO



### TELEVISION



wildlife of the delta of the Okavango River in southwest Africa

**■ BRAVE WILDERNESS, ANIMAL PLANET, 5.00 PM:** Adventurer and animal expert Coyote Peterson and his crew go on a wild world of adventure as

they encounter various animals up close and learn new things about them.

**■ GLOBAL WHEELING: INDIAN ODYSSEY, HISTORY TV18, 7.00 PM:** In Mumbai, a man in a bar advises Kayden to avoid the coast and head east in order to bypass the monsoon rains and the melting Himalayan snow.

**■ MAN VS. WILD, DISCOVERY CHANNEL, 8.00 PM:** Bear crosses the Baja Desert when his eye is swollen shut by a bee sting. With his vision impaired, he has to avoid the region's dangerous rattlesnakes.



### MOVIES ON TV

**■ THE HITMAN'S BODYGUARD, STAR MOVIES, 3.07 PM:** Michael Bryce, a protection agent, is tasked with protecting Darius Kincaid, one of the world's most famous assassins. The two must then set aside their differences to tackle several dangerous events.

**■ THE JUNGLE BOOK, &FLIX, 5.10 PM:** Mowgli is a boy brought up in the jungle by a pack of wolves. When Shere Khan, a tiger, threatens to kill him, a panther and a bear help him



escape his clutches.

**■ DRAGON FIST, MNX, 7.00 PM:** Tang How-yuen, a desperate student, seeks vengeance for the death of his teacher at the hands of a rival master. Aiding him in his quest is the victim's wife and daughter.

**1793:** During the French Revolution, Queen Marie Antoinette was beheaded after being convicted of treason.

**1847:** 'Jane Eyre' by Charlotte Brontë was first published in London.

**1854:** Oscar Wilde, was born in Dublin, Ireland.

**1868:** Denmark ended its involvement in India by selling the rights to the Nicobar Islands to the British.

**1950:** The first edition of CS Lewis' 'The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe' was released.

**1964:** China detonated its first atomic bomb becoming the world's fifth nuclear power.

**1967:** NATO headquarters opened in Brussels.

**1968:** Americans Tommie Smith and John Carlos gave the Black Power Salute on the 200m medal podium during the Mexico City Olympics.

**1995:** Million Man March held in Washington, DC (over 830,000 African American men attended).

**2004:** Lionel Messi, aged 17, made his league debut for Barcelona against Espanyol.

THIS DAY THAT YEAR

SOURCES: WIKIPEDIA, WWW.NOBELPRIZE.ORG AND GOODREADS